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The Brooklyn Papers

FOR 25 YEARS

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Members of the St. Augustine Roman Catholic Church march in the Park Slope parade without invited members of the Lavender and Green Alliance, who were booted by the parade committee.

Gays banished from Irish parade

By Patrick Gallaue
The Brooklyn Papers

The sun shone warm upon the faces of marchers and spectators at Sunday's Brooklyn Irish American Day Parade in Park Slope.

Thousands lined the streets basking in the spring-like day as fife and drum bands lit up Park Slope from Bartel Pritchard Square to Union Street between Seventh Avenue and Prospect Park West.

"The weather was with us, the groups were with us," said Joe Ferris, one of the parade's organizers. The road, however, did not rise to meet all its attendance.

The Lavender and Green Alliance, an Irish gay and lesbian organization, was once again cast to the curb despite an invitation from parishioners at the St. Augustine Roman Catholic Church to march alongside them.

As the parade lined up on 14th Street, between Prospect Park West and Eighth Avenue, a parade committee member confronted Brendan Fay, Lavender and Green's executive director, for carrying a banner bearing the gay rainbow symbol with an Irish flag and harp at the edges.

"You may not march with that flag," an irate parade committee member told him.

Fay and his supporters demanded to know why the banner was not allowed and then a police officer came over and told them they could not march. "It's a private event," the officer said. "It's by invitation only. This group wasn't invited."

After being confronted by the parade committee, Fay was offered a place in the march if the banner was kept folded, otherwise he'd have to carry the banner on the sidewalk.

Fay and a few supporters, most of who said they were not gay, opted for the latter in order to make the organization visible.

As the march proceeded, Fay shadowed St. Augustine's marchers from the sidewalk.

See **SLOPE PARADE** on page 5



A member of the NYPD pipe band blows a tune on Sunday in Park Slope. The Brooklyn Papers / Tom Callan

READY FOR WAR

By Patrick Gallaue
The Brooklyn Papers

With war in Iraq imminent and fears of terrorist attacks at home heightened a new multi-agency law enforcement initiative dubbed "Operation Atlas" reached into neighborhoods this week.

Police warn that bags and trunks may be opened, delays on roadways can be expected and officers with high-caliber weaponry will be omnipresent during the heightened alert.

"You can't be offended by that," said Inspector Christopher Rising, commanding officer of the 84th Precinct, which includes Brooklyn Heights, Boerum Hill, DUMBO and Fort Greene.

"I think people almost have to anticipate that. Vehicles are going to be stopped, there's going to be greater traffic, you may be asked to open up the trunk as you go across the Manhattan Bridge, if you have a truck you could very well expect to be asked to open the back," said Rising. "These are the kinds of things we're just going to have to do."

Rising added that certain locations, such as the Atlantic Avenue Long Island Railroad and subway hub at Flatbush Avenue, the Brooklyn and Manhattan bridges, government buildings and houses of worship will feature an elevated police presence.



United States Marine Lance Cpl. Ana Taras, of Midwood, grabs a wrench while working on the engine of a CH-53E Super Sea Stallion helicopter Saturday on an air base in the Gulf region. Taras is the only woman mechanic working on the flight line in her unit, the HMH462 out of Miramar, California.

"They may be carrying some very high-powered weapons," Rising said at an 84th Precinct Community Council meeting Tuesday night.

"Should you be concerned with this?" he asked rhetorically. "No, you shouldn't be concerned by this. See **READY** on page 5

War on your mind?

The Brooklyn Papers wants to provide a forum for your thoughts on the war in Iraq and security at home. Email your comments of no more than 200 words to newsroom@brooklynpapers.com. Please be sure to include your name, address and telephone number for verification purposes. Only your name and neighborhood will be printed.

Response to smoke bomb recalls 1997 terror capture

By Neil Sloane and Patrick Gallaue
The Brooklyn Papers

With the city already on an ultra-high terror alert, police and fire units raced to a Park Slope home Sunday that they suspected might be a bomb factory.

What they found was a couple of teen pranksters trying to make a smoke bomb.

But the incident, which first drew firefighters to a call of smoke coming from a window at 443 First St., at Seventh Ave., at 2:53 pm on March 16, seemed all too familiar at first glance, recalling the 1997 arrest of a real terrorist bomb-maker in Park Slope.

On July 31, 1997, police acting on a tip that bombs were being made there raided an apartment on Fourth Avenue, between Carroll and Union streets. They arrested two Palestinian men, Gazi Ibrahim



With rifles in hand, police stand atop building at Union Street and Fourth Avenue in 1997 when plot to blow up the Atlantic Avenue subway station was averted. The Brooklyn Papers / File photo

Abu Mezer and Lafi Khalil, shooting Mezer in the leg after he tried to wrestle a gun from one of the officers and then attempted to flip a switch on a pipe bomb in the apartment.

The tip had come from a roommate of Mezer and Khalil, Abdel Rahman Mosab, an Egyptian immigrant who informed a Long Island Railroad police officer about the bombs and the men's intention to use them. The officer, John Kowalchuk, and his partner, Eric Huber, took the tip seriously.

"Anytime somebody walks up talking about something like this we're going to take it seriously," Kowalchuk said after the bust. "We notified our headquarters, and they notified NYPD."

In the apartment, police found an elaborately constructed pipe bomb rigged to explode, an unfinished bomb and a letter protesting the United States' Middle East

See **SMOKE** on page 2



Brooklynite Yvette Jarvis has won a seat on the Athens city council.

Fete for Brooklyn native elected to Greek council

By Deborah Kolben
The Brooklyn Papers

Spanakopita, mousaka and souvlaki will be served up alongside collard greens, salmon cakes and fried okra when festivities at Borough Hall kick off at the end of the month to honor the first black American ever elected to municipal

government in Greece.

Yvette Jarvis, a Brooklyn native raised in Red Hook, made headlines when she was elected to the Athens city council in October.

In a country where she is famed for her stint as a professional basketball player, the athlete-turned-model-turned-television host campaigned on a platform of creating more tolerance for immigrants.

Her mother died when she was just 9 years old, leaving Jarvis and four siblings to move in with their grandmother in a two-bedroom apartment in the Red Hook Houses complex.

Jarvis went on to graduate from Boston University with an academic and athletic scholarship, and planned on attending law school at Harvard University.

See **GREEK** on page 5

Yassky airs 'Transitional' woes

By Patrick Gallaue
The Brooklyn Papers

Councilman David Yassky crashed a council budget hearing Thursday to confront Administration for Children's Services Commissioner William Bell about a center for troubled youths that has become the bane of his Boerum Hill and Downtown Brooklyn constituents.

"There's some grievances you and I have discussed in terms of the performance of the facility, particularly the level of supervision and programming,"

Yassky told Bell. "The way that manifests itself is the number of troublesome incidents that arise at that transition center."

According to Yassky, there were more than two 911 calls per week involving the Atlantic Transitional Center, at 316 Atlantic Ave. between Smith and Hoyt streets, over a particular six-month period in 2002. He then asked the commissioner if the troubles were attributed to programming, management or staffing and what steps were being taken to improve the center.

Caught off guard by the concern over a particular center at a budget hearing be-

fore the General Welfare Committee, Bell answered, "This, in effect, is a preliminary budget hearing testimony and I would not want to take away from the budget questions. But I will say that what we've done is that we've successfully created a community advisory board and we have made ourselves available for discussion."

The 24-bed group home is a form of foster care for youths between the ages of 15 and 21. Many have a history of emotional and behavioral problems and the length of stay varies from one to 90 days. Critics complain that many stays extend that period.

During the first six months of 2002 there were 68 incidents requiring police attention at the center, 14 of which resulted in complaint reports, which included one robbery, one assault, four petty larcenies, three counts of harassment and five missing persons.

While elected officials and officers from the 84th Precinct have continued to meet with Administration for Children's Services (ACS) officials, many civic associations have closed the door on discussions claiming that past manifestations of an advisory panel proved that

See **ATLANTIC** on page 5



Green bagels & Purim

St. Patrick's Day spilled into the start of Purim Monday night. To mark Purim, a group of children from Congregation Mount Sinai on Caden Plaza West perform during party.

At left, Borough President Marty Markowitz's personal supply of green bagels at Borough Hall, which he distributed during his Yiddish Sons of Erin Breakfast that morning.

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CB2: No more shelters

By Patrick Gallaue
The Brooklyn Papers

Community Board 2 members this week said, "No way" to plans for a homeless shelter in Downtown Brooklyn, complaining that their neighborhoods already bear more than their fair share.

Responding to the plan to set up a 200-woman shelter at 200 Tillary St., CB2 on March 12 recommended "the disapproval of the Department of Homeless Services (DHS), Department of Health (DOH), and the Administration for Children's Services (ACS) proposals to site new facilities or expand existing facilities within the boundaries of CB2."

Board member Verdell Binvas said, "We have to be firm in our statement that we don't want any more."

"We're over-saturated with this and we don't need any more," added Ruth Saunders, chairwoman of the Health, Environment and Social Services committee.

Consumer Information and Dispute Resolution Inc. (CIDR), a non-profit organization that runs services for people with disabilities, informed CB2 in December of its plans to convert the eight-story, 6,500-square-foot building into a shelter and counseling facility for homeless women with medical disabilities referred by the Department of Homeless Services.

The company recently lost



200 Tillary St. Downtown is being considered as a site for a homeless shelter.

its lease on another facility, at 488 Saint Marks Ave. in Crown Heights, and is looking to relocate. Most of CIDR's clients are "medically frail," meaning they suffer from chronic health problems and require continuous treatment. More than half of the clients at 488 Saint Marks Ave. were mentally ill.

At a CB2 full board meeting last month, several elected officials were in attendance including Borough President Mary Markowitz, state Sen. Velmaette Montgomery and

Public Advocate Betsy Gotbaum.

"I get notified the day before or the day before people are moved into these sites," said Montgomery. "The mayor has completely abandoned any process of public disclosure or review."

Said Markowitz, "The days

ahead will be more challenging as the economy gets more challenged. There's no doubt that the demand for housing and homeless services will increase ... But there has to be a balance."

Gotbaum promised to look into the proposed shelter.

Jim Anderson, a spokesman for the Department for Homeless Services said CIDR had only submitted a proposal for the facility, which was still under review by the agency. Anderson said a public hearing could be scheduled by late May or June as the agency considers the proposal.

In the past year, neighborhoods within CB2 have been besieged by homeless shelters.

In Fort Greene, neighbors were told that a building at 65 Clermont Ave. would be converted into 12 units of luxury housing but shortly before the building opened it was switched to a 24-unit temporary homeless shelter.

Three buildings — at 523 and 525 Clinton Ave. and 508 Waverly Ave. — all between Fulton Street and Atlantic Avenue, are being readyed to host a 19-unit, 25-bed shelter for formerly homeless families with a history of mental illness.

SMOKE...

Continued from page 1

ing to the scene saw what appeared to be the makings of a bomb on the stove and called for police.

Investigators from the Bomb Squad and the Arson and Explosion Division responded. First Street, between Sixth and Seventh avenues, was shut down for more than an hour.

Hansaral Maharawal, 17, who accidentally burned himself while allegedly making the smoke bomb, suffered second-degree burns to his upper torso. He was treated at New York Methodist Hospital in Park Slope.

Police said that Maharawal and an unidentified 17-year-old boy were cooking up the smoke bomb ingredients, possibly using a recipe from Yippee Vietnam War protester Abbie Hoffman's 1971 book, "Steal This Book."

On Monday, Maharawal was charged with arson, first-degree criminal possession of a weapon and reckless endangerment. His 17-year-old friend was not charged with a crime. A police spokesman could not say why only one of the boys was charged.

Maharawal is a student at the elite Bronx High School of Science and his friend is a student at Fiorella LaGuardia High School in Manhattan.

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LEGAL NOTICE OF PURCHASE OF SALE, SUPREME COURT, COUNTY OF KINGS, NYCL 1998-2 TRUST AND THE BANK OF NEW YORK, AS COLLATERAL AGENT AND GUARANTEE FOR THE NYCL 1998-2 TRUST, Plaintiff against H. S. L. REATY, INC., et al. Defendant. Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered herein and dated May 13, 2002, the undersigned foreman will sell at public auction at the front of the court house steps facing Adams Street, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, N.Y. on the 7th day of April, 2003 at 2:30 PM premises lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, BEGINNING at a point formed by the intersection of the westerly side of New York Avenue and the westerly side of St. Mark Avenue being a plot 125 feet by 125 feet 3.12 inches, B.L. 125.34. Said premises known as 770 ST. MARK AVENUE, BROOKLYN, NY. Approximate area of 15,644.22 sq. ft. and all premises will be sold subject to the terms of the judgment and terms of sale entered herein. 143651. HARVEY J. JACOBS, Esq., Referee, Foreclosure, Realty, 909 Third Ave., New York, NY 10022. The above sale was originally scheduled for March 12, 2003 at 3:00 PM but was postponed to the date of the sale. The sale will be held at 2:30 PM on the same place, Harvey J. Jacobs, Esq., Referee, 1 BROADWAY, 7th Floor, New York, NY 10004. NOTICE OF SALE, SUPREME COURT, COUNTY OF KINGS, MORTGAGE BANKERS CORPORATION SYSTEMS, INC., Plaintiff, against KARL BARNHARTER et al., Defendant. Pursuant to a judgment of foreclosure and sale entered herein and dated 10/12/02, the undersigned foreman will sell at public auction at the front of the Kings County Courthouse, Brooklyn, NY on the 4th day of April, 2003 at 2:30 PM premises lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, BEGINNING at a point formed by the intersection of the westerly side of New York Avenue and the westerly side of St. Mark Avenue being a plot 125 feet by 125 feet 3.12 inches, B.L. 125.34. Said premises known as 770 ST. MARK AVENUE, BROOKLYN, NY. Approximate area of 15,644.22 sq. ft. and all premises will be sold subject to the terms of the judgment and terms of sale entered herein. 143651. HARVEY J. JACOBS, Esq., Referee, Foreclosure, Realty, 909 Third Ave., New York, NY 10022. The above sale was originally scheduled for March 12, 2003 at 3:00 PM but was postponed to the date of the sale. The sale will be held at 2:30 PM on the same place, Harvey J. Jacobs, Esq., Referee, 1 BROADWAY, 7th Floor, New York, NY 10004.

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Neighbors react to Bush's war plans

By Patrick Gallaheue
The Brooklyn Papers

One day after President George W. Bush gave an ultimatum to Saddam Hussein to leave Iraq or face invasion — essentially beginning the countdown to a war in Iraq — the inflated presence of law enforcement quelled any doubt about the gravity of the times.

By Tuesday afternoon, the walkways of the East River bridges, houses of worship and landmarks, normally places of respite, were heavily patrolled by police and military. Subways are now monitored by bomb-sniffing dogs and the rivers feature the increased security of the U.S. Coast Guard. All the while, the clock ticks down.

The images of a borough braced for disaster reflects in the experiences, emotions and

even memories of Brooklyn residents, many of whom live in areas replete with the city's "sensitive areas," so dubbed by law enforcement.

"I just think about how unreal it is," said Patti Hagan, of Prospect Heights. "You're used to a military presence in places like Israel and I suppose in places like Iraq. But you're not used to a military presence in New York City. Except after 9-11."

On Tuesday, Hagan saw a

squadron of helicopters flying over Brooklyn in honor of a police officer killed in the line of duty on Staten Island and first wondered if it was an anti-terrorism patrol.

The nature of the times make an unusual impression on the business of Nancy Cogen, the owner of the Melting Pot, a store selling hand-dyed clothing on Atlantic Avenue. She has never sold so many peace shirts in more than 20 years in business.

"It may make me nervous that [military and law enforcement] have to be around but I'm glad they're there," Cogen said. "It makes me feel a little more secure."

Roy Vanasco, a Fort Greene businessman and member of Community Board 2, has responded to the heightened security by renewing his calls on elected officials and CB2 to create an evacuation plan for the area in case of a disaster.

While their feelings on the impending war in Iraq vary — Cogen and Hagan standing against the war and Vanasco in favor — all openly express concerns about the possibility of an attack on the bridges, transit hubs, government buildings or landmarks that pack western Brooklyn.

Since Sept. 11, Vanasco has revisited his own history of seeing Pearl Harbor bombed

See **REACT** on page 5

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Pataki cuts business zone funds

By Patrick Gallaheue
The Brooklyn Papers

Only a couple of years ago, 4223 First Ave. in Sunset Park was a boarded-up, graffiti-ridden shell filled only by squatters.

Two years, and a \$10 million rehabilitation later, it stands as tribute to the revitalization of the neighborhood. The 12,000-square-foot building at 42nd Street is painted a light pink with gleaming windows beside a new staircase and wheelchair-accessible ramp.

"This building we're in was a boarded-up home for squatters, prostitutes and junkies," said Pat Whelan, managing director of Sahadi Fine Foods — the wholesale company of Brooklyn Heights merchant Charlie Sahadi and his Atlantic Avenue shop Sahadi Importing Company — which owns two

other neighboring buildings for warehousing and manufacturing in Sunset Park.

The transition was made possible through the state's Empire Zones program, and Whelan said, "Without this program that doesn't happen."

Now merchants, development advocates and legislators are decrying cuts to the Empire Zone program.

In his budget proposal Gov. George Pataki cut the Empire Zone program's \$3.5 million administrative budget statewide, meaning that the companies within the zone are still eligible for tax breaks but will not receive free assistance in accessing them.

"Only very large firms that

can hire private consultants for \$15,000 a pop can do it," said Leah Archibald, executive director of the Southwest Brooklyn Industrial Development

Corporation (SWBIDC), which administers the Empire Zone in South Brooklyn.

Archibald said there were nearly 2,000 businesses, with 25,000 employees, in the 2-square-mile zone, which includes Sunset Park, Gowanus and Red Hook.

The empire zone's \$3.3 million budget, \$600,000 of which is in New York City, has leveraged more than \$2.7 billion in private investment around the state, Archibald said.

Archibald was joined by state Sen. Seymour Lachman, state Sen. Velmanette Montgomery and Assemblyman Felix Ortiz on March 14 at 4223 First Ave. to denounce the cuts.

"I know that Brooklyn and

Sunset Park is the best place for businesses," Ortiz said. "I will work as hard as I can to have the governor overturn

this proposal."

"We think this is very shortsighted," Montgomery added.

"It makes no sense."

The assistance provided by SWBIDC includes obtaining, completing and following-up on applications for businesses to receive abatements in land and wage taxes, as well as energy credits to bring their businesses to Brooklyn.

After Ken Weiss' father passed away in 2000, he was left to make a decision over whether or not he could afford to buy Fixture Hardware Manufacturing Corp., a steel fabricating company, which had been in his family since 1917 and in Brooklyn since 1947.

The strain the purchase put on his finances made hiring a consultant impossible, he said.

"I wouldn't have bought the business if I didn't get the help," Weiss said. "It's as simple as that."

The contract between the state and SWBIDC expires at the end of June.

Pataki's office tried to downplay the importance of the de-funding of the program.

"This is a minor change that would simply have localities partner with the state in sharing the modest administrative costs of the Empire Zones program," said Ken Brown, a Pataki budget spokesman.

The city, however, which is facing its own massive budget deficits was less receptive to the proposal.

"We think these cuts would have a negative impact on the city's Empire Zones," said Jake Lynn, a spokesman for the city's Department of Small Business Services. "And we urge the state legislature to look for ways to keep the funding stream in place."

City planning OK's Downtown bunker

By Patrick Gallaheue
The Brooklyn Papers

The City Planning Commission on Wednesday approved a plan to convert the Red Cross building in Brooklyn Heights into a \$110 million emergency command center for the Office of Management.

Downtown-Brooklyn Heights Councilman David Yassky, who

has opposed the siting of the facility off Cadman Plaza East, has offered to assist the agency to find other sites in his district, like the Brooklyn Navy Yard.

"I was not surprised," Yassky said of the vote. "The majority of the City Planning Commission is appointed by the mayor and this is a proposal of the mayor. I remain convinced that it's a mistake for the city so now I'll have to

take that case to the rest of the City Council."

The City Planning Commission has seven appointees of the mayor, one for each of the five borough presidents and one for the public advocate.

Anat Jacobson, a spokeswoman for Public Advocate Betsy Gotbaum, said the decision of her appointee, Karen Phillips, to vote against the Downtown bunker was based

on the community's complaints that the area was already full of some of the city's most sensitive targets including the federal courthouse and the Brooklyn Bridge and that the building would encroach on park space.

The vote was made two weeks after it came before the commission, at which OEM was greeted by 40 protesters.

"I don't think that they real-

ly paid attention to what the community was saying and the importance of the issues that spanned how well it would serve the OEM to how it would effect future development in Downtown Brooklyn," said Mark Zimmerman, president of the Concord Village Owners Corp.

The application now goes to the City Council for hearings and a vote.

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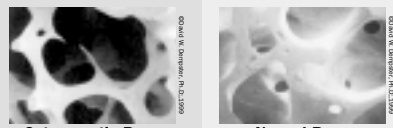
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Robocop charms 84th

By Patrick Gallaue
The Brooklyn Papers

It was kind of like "Lost in Space" meets the 84th Precinct at a precinct community council meeting in Brooklyn Heights Tuesday night.

In what must have been one of the most hospitable crowds it has faced since joining the police department in 1989, the Andros police rolled down the aisle on its rubber and Kevlar tracks to greet residents of Brooklyn Heights, Boerum Hill, DUMBO, Vinegar Hill and Fort Greene, which comprise the jurisdiction of the 84th Precinct.

Bringing to mind a more compact Robby the Robot from the 1960s sci-fi series, the 600-pound, remote-controlled, aluminum guest demonstrated its ability to walk up stairs, pick up objects, monitor a scene with its



The Andros robot makes its way down the aisle at the 84th Precinct's Community Council meeting Tuesday night.

two cameras and communicate through a microphone.

"The more we know about police work and the tools they have to do it, the better we feel," said Leslie Lewis, the precinct council

president.

The \$130,000 robot is designed to enter hazardous situations instead of human officers.

"This robot is used where we don't want to send the police of-

ficer into; where we already know it's a hostile situation," said Sgt. Paul Hargrove, of the Emergency Services Unit (ESU).

Among those situations are chemical spills, hostage rescues and recovery operations. While the robot brought to the community council is used by the ESU, the bomb squad uses similar machines to remove explosives.

To prove the point of Andros' bravery, the robot bears a bullet wound sustained in a shootout with a murderer who had taken hostages in Long Island in 1991.

The robot is capable of firing a shotgun or a Taser and can bring even some of the more macho hoodlums to submission.

"I call it one-upmanship," Hargrove said. "You're a man. I'm a man. You've got a gun. I've got a gun. You've got a robot. Maybe we can talk about this."

Two more bank robs

By Patrick Gallaue
The Brooklyn Papers

Two more banks were robbed this week in Downtown Brooklyn and Fort Greene.

On March 11, a man walked into an HSBC Bank on Fulton Street at Adams Street, shortly after 3 pm, and approached the teller with a black metal object wrapped in a paper bag. He passed the employee a note demanding \$50 and \$20 bills, claiming that otherwise he and an unseen partner would kill everyone in the bank. The robber also claimed in the note to have explosives.

Despite the bold claims something spooked the suspect who fled the bank without taking any money.

The following day, at around 1 pm, a man bearing a different description entered a Washington Mutual Bank on DeKalb Avenue, between Ellet Street and University Plaza, and passed a note that read, "All the 190s and 50s in the top drawer fast and nobody gets hurt."

The teller handed over about \$2,400 in cash and the robber fled.

84/76 Blotters

The two incidents were not believed related.

Pierrepont mug
A 31-year-old Brooklyn Heights woman was attacked on March 11 while walking on Pierrepont Street at around midnight.

The victim was walking along Pierrepont Street, between Clinton Street and Cadman Plaza West when someone attempted to snatch her purse. She held onto the handle, but the suspect wrestled it away, throwing her to the ground in the process.

The suspect fled east on Pierrepont Street and the victim sustained minor lacerations to her knees. The victim reported \$20, her credit cards, cell phone, checkbook and passport stolen.

Two for one
A burglar hit two stores in one break-in on Fulton Street. According to police, between 10 pm on March 13 and 8:30 the next morning, a

prowl broke into a neighboring building but then bore a hole through a wall to get into a beauty salon and jewelry store between Rockwell Place and Ashland Place.

The salon reported \$200 stolen and the jewelry store estimated between \$2,000 and \$3,000 in merchandise had been stolen. A detailed list of the stolen items was not available by press time.

Hicks St. mug

A woman, 58, on the corner of Hicks and Pineapple streets on March 14 when someone made an unlawful passing.

She said she felt a light tug on her purse as the man passed, shortly before 2 pm, but she did not get a clear look at the suspect. Shortly after the crossing she realized her wallet, containing \$110 and credit cards, had been stolen.

Motor running
A thief came upon a car on Livingston Street, at the corner

of Smith Street that had its engine running and keys in the ignition. So he took it.

The victim, 50, said he left his car on the corner for about five minutes, at about 5:40 am on March 13, to pick up some items at a nearby store. When he returned the car was gone.

Mugged on Jay

A woman was walking into the Jay Street A train station on the corner of Willoughby Street on March 12 when she was attacked and robbed.

The victim, 34, told police the suspect grabbed her purse and then punched her in the face, at 3:30 pm, at the top of the station's stairs. As the suspect fled, police were flagged down. Officers caught up to a 33-year-old suspect a few blocks away at Pearl and Willoughby streets.

The suspect was arrested and, according to police, was positively identified by the victim.

LEGAL AND PUBLIC NOTICES

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on the 12th day of March, 2003, bearing the Index Number N007-2002(3), a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at CIVIL COURT, KINGS COUNTY, 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201, in room 007, grants me rights to Assume the name of: Robert Robert Morales as Roberto Morales. My present name is: Roberto Morales. My date of birth is: 01/05/68. My date of birth is: 03/05/68. BP12

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on the 14th day of March, 2003, bearing the Index Number N007-2002(3), a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at CIVIL COURT, KINGS COUNTY, 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201, in room 007, grants me rights to Assume the name of: Joshua Joshua Martinez Contreras. My present name is: Joshua Martinez Contreras. My present address is: 105 East 18th St., Apt. 42L, Brooklyn, NY 11218. My place of birth is: Maricao, Puerto Rico. My date of birth is: 05/29/79. BP12

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on the 10th day of March, 2003, bearing the Index Number N007-2002(3), a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at CIVIL COURT, KINGS COUNTY, 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201, in room 007, grants me rights to Assume the name of: David David Contreras. My present name is: David Contreras. My present address is: 27 East 18th St., Apt. 42L, Brooklyn, NY 11218. My place of birth is: Maricao, Puerto Rico. My date of birth is: 04/12/72. BP12

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Chickens cooked in market fire

By Patrick Gallaue
The Brooklyn Papers

A Columbia Street Waterfront District poultry market went up in flames Saturday frying nearly 2,000 chickens.

The three-alarm inferno started shortly before 6 am, in the attic of Lee's Live Poultry Market, at 105 Union Street, between Columbia and Van Brunt streets, quickly spread to the roof and then the market. The blaze was not brought under control until a little after 12:30 pm, a fire department spokeswoman said.

While all the market's human inhabitants escaped, and the fire did not spread beyond the one-story market, the spokeswoman added that seven firefighters were treated at various hospitals for minor injuries.

The fire department has yet to determine a cause for the fire.

Of the 600 ducks penned at the market, a few lucky ones managed to escape.

Two of the primary responders to the fire were Engine Company 204, in Cobble Hill, and Engine 278, in Sunset Park, both of whose firehouses have been slated for closure by Mayor Michael Bloomberg.

The loss of the poultry market is a terrible, terrible shame, but thank heavens no human lives were lost," said Carroll Gardens-Park Slope Councilman Bill DeBlasio, who has fought the firehouse closures. "This is yet another example of why we can't close firehouses like Engine Company 204 and Engine Company 278."

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Woman killed in Sunset Park blaze

By Patrick Gallahue
The Brooklyn Papers

Fire tore through a four-story building in Sunset Park on March 12, killing one woman and gutting the building.

The fire broke out inside 204 26th St., at the corner of Fourth Avenue, shortly before 4 p.m. The fire was brought under control within 45 minutes, but not before it took the life of Martha Erika Guzman Cortes, 23, a resident of the

building.

Cortes died of smoke inhalation, according to the medical examiner's office. Neighbor Juan Matute returned home to see the windows smashed and firefighters battling the blaze.

"I saw some broken windows and firefighters," he said. "All the people were outside."

According to Matute, neighbors said Cortes was pregnant at the time of her death. The medical examiner's office

would not confirm that information.

The cause of the fire had still not been determined at press time, the Fire Department spokeswoman said.

Outside the now boarded-up building, a small memorial has been set up in honor of Cortes with pictures of the young woman standing on the beach, several bouquets of flowers, a Mexican flag and a half-dozen candles that were burning into the night almost a week after the tragedy.



Ladder Companies 131 and 122 at scene of deadly fire on 26th Street at Fourth Avenue in Sunset Park Thursday.
The Brooklyn Papers / Tom Callan

Gunshots on Carroll Street

By Patrick Gallahue
The Brooklyn Papers

A robbery on Carroll Street erupted in gunfire after a motorist attempted to stymie the two thieves' escape.

According to police, at 10 a.m. on March 15, a pair of men attempted to grab a 37-year-old Park Slope woman from behind while she walked down Carroll Street between Seventh and Eighth avenues. The muggers held her at gunpoint and took her handbag, containing \$4 and her cell phone.

As the muggers ran towards Seventh Avenue in the middle of Carroll Street, a driver pulled in front of them and blocked their path. The

78/72 Blotters

robbers fired one shot at the motorist, 49, and missed her. Police recovered the bullet casing.

The two men jumped into another vehicle, driven by a third accomplice, and escaped.

Riches to ruin
An arrest cut two suspects' road to riches remarkably short.

A man and a boy are in custody for allegedly pulling two stick-ups in Park Slope on March 12.

Two men, 18 and 19, reported being held up at gunpoint. The thieves stole a Walkman, jewelry and \$11 at 9 p.m. on Montgomery Place and Prospect Park West.

Police said the 15-year-old suspect brandished the handgun while his 20-year-old accomplice looked on.

Ten minutes later, a man, 19, was walking home when he was confronted by the suspects on Garfield Place at Eighth Avenue.

As in the first incident, police said, the younger suspect brandished the gun and allegedly said while taking more than \$200 and a watch, "We're gonna get rich today."

During a search of the area, police arrested the two suspects at Eastern Parkway and Underhill Avenue. They were charged with both robberies.

Motor running
A rental car was stolen March 13 from outside a building on Fourth Avenue, between Union and President streets.

The victim, 32, was dropping something off at around 12:20 p.m., and left the car running and the doors unlocked. When he returned about 15 minutes later the 1991 Ford Tempo was gone.

Gunpoint rob
A Park Slope mini-mart on Ninth Street at Fourth Avenue, was held up by a gun-wielding trio of men-do-wells who entered the business at around 7 p.m. on March 14. Just in case the employees weren't convinced by the guns, one of the armed robbers yelled, "This is a holdup. Give me the money."

Employees and shoppers were held at gunpoint while the thieves emptied the register of \$200 and fled.

Grabs it back
A searcher grabbed a man's cell phone at Lincoln Place and Plaza Street West on March 13, according to police. The victim, however, grabbed the phone back.

The two engaged in a tug-of-war over the phone, at 1:15 p.m., with the 54-year-old victim emerging as the winner, police said.

The suspect fled, but was caught by police and taken to jail, where he was probably given one phone call.

No good deed ...
A Good Samaritan attempted to help someone and was robbed for her efforts.

The victim, 45, was approached on Seventh Avenue between President and Carroll streets, at 11:30 a.m. on March 14, by a woman who asked for help reading a package.

The victim told police that as soon as she approached the woman, a man crept up behind her and simulated a weapon against her back. He forced her into a car, with the woman and another man.

They drove her one block, to Seventh Avenue between Union and President streets, police said, and then the gang intimidated her into withdrawing \$300 from her account, and cashing two money orders, for \$500 and \$400, at a nearby bank. The trio then took the money and fled.

Mugged on Jay

A woman was walking into the Jay Street A train station on the corner of Willoughby Street on March 12 when she was attacked and robbed.

The victim, 34, told police the suspect grabbed her purse and then punched her in the face, at 3:30 p.m., at the top of the station's stairs. As the suspect fled, police were flagged down. Officers caught up to a 33-year-old suspect a few blocks away at Pearl and Willoughby streets.

The suspect was arrested and, according to police, was positively identified by the victim.

Knifepoint gang

A 44-year-old man was on his way home on March 15 when he was pushed to the ground and held at knifepoint by five young men.

The victim was walking on Carroll Street, between Fifth and Sixth avenues, shortly before 4 p.m., when he was set upon by the mob.

After they threw him to the ground they ordered him to keep his eyes closed. The posse sifted through his pockets and stole \$40, according to police.



Robot charms

The Andros robot makes its way down the aisle at the 84th Precinct Community Council meeting Tuesday night. The robot is used to help police at chemical spills, hostage rescues and recovery operations.

The Brooklyn Papers / Tom Callan

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Library kicks off 'Year of the Rat'

Grant for Atlantic parking study

By Patrick Gallahue
The Brooklyn Papers

Councilman David Yassky has obtained a \$4,000 grant to assess the problem of cars bearing government parking permits hogging Atlantic Avenue metered spots.

With the City Council money, the Atlantic Avenue Betterment Association will hire a consultant to perform surveys and documentation of permit parkers sitting for extended periods at metered spaces.

Yassky's office announced the allocation at the regular monthly meeting of Community Board 2 on Feb. 13.

In addition to robbing the city of quarters that would otherwise be fed into the meters, businesses suffer because their patrons cannot find parking spots.

"The shops need people to be able to park near the stores," said Sandy Balboa, president of the betterment association. "So it hurts the small businesses."

The commercial rows of Atlantic Avenue and Smith

Street have long seen their businesses hurt by city, state and federal officials and officials who use their parking permits, legally reserved for official business, to take spots that might otherwise be occupied by shoppers.

Permitted vehicles on official government business are only supposed to park in front of meters for up to three hours, but according to merchants, and neighborhood activists, the official cars overstay their welcome and remain

during the entire business day.

According to merchants, some workers have even been so bold as to Xerox their permits.

"If you ask me what the biggest drag on the avenue is, it's parking," said longtime Atlantic Avenue merchant Charles

Sahadi, who owns the Sahadi Importing Company shop on Atlantic Avenue between Clinton and Court streets.

The timeline and scope of the study are still being determined, Balboa said.

Takes Yassky to task over tolls

To the editors:

I was very disappointed to read in your paper that my councilman, David Yassky "...

has so far remained undecided on bridge tolls ..."

"[E. River tolls under review by the Brooklyn Papers, March 3].

Perhaps I can help him to decide to oppose the tolls as our other elected officials have. The traffic backup caused by tollbooths or E-Z-Pass-type tolls would create great disruption to the neighboring communities, as all of us who have waited going through the E-Z-Pass lanes can attest. Brooklyn has an added burden as the Manhattan and Brooklyn bridges are so close to each other.

Further, tolls on the bridges are an unfair tax on Brooklyn residents who need to cross the East River bridges to use the perimeter of Manhattan on their way to the Bronx, New Jersey and the world beyond. It is commuters that should pay for the privilege of entering New York City then re-institute the commuter tax. We Brooklyn residents are not commuters.

Yassky would see what a hardship bridge tolls would create for our community and as our councilman would vigorously oppose them.

—Ellen Adelman
Brooklyn Heights

OEM bunker not welcome here

To the editor:

"Mayor's bunker bashed" [The Brooklyn Papers, March

17], following are seven points for OEM from the Friends of Cadogan Place.

1. OEM claims that the Navy Yard is subject to floods and therefore is unacceptable, yet according to FEMA maps and other sources there are extensive areas in the Navy Yard that are well out of any danger of flooding and would be readily accessible.

2. OEM claims that they would not "extend beyond the current property line" [and intrude in Whitman Park] (New York Times, March 6) yet their proposed building would be at least 50 feet closer to that line than the existing building and their security requirements would extend the perimeter of effective control another 25 feet.

3. OEM insists that they are not a target. That may or may not be, but according to U.S. Marshals' recent study for the Board of Judges, this location is right between two identified prime targets, namely the Brooklyn Bridge and the new and very prominent federal courthouse, which OEM suggests that they would "work with the community" to minimize their impact on the park, yet the harsh fact is that their 100-foot-tall building will irreversibly diminish the significance of the nearby WWII memorial, the centerpiece of the park and the largest of its kind in the city, and wall-in the north side of Whitman Park.

4. OEM implies that they will be good residents of the park, yet their dominion over the entire park will certainly be asserted whenever a mobilization is called for, regardless of where in the city the problem exists, be it a gas explosion in Queens, a highway shutdown in the Bronx or a major fire in Staten Island. At such times they must take command of whatever resources and spaces their mobilization requires, and they

LETTERS

may fairly be expected to take command of our park and its open spaces. This park-limiting proposal needs to be honestly and fully explored.

6. OEM repeatedly claims that they have considered

some 20 other sites, but as at the March 4 hearing, they have proved to be unwilling or unable to provide any specifics about the rejected sites. (Commissioner Odeh-matt did state that he and his

staff look forward to being located in such an attractive area.)

7. What is the OEM's response to the charges by the Board of Federal Judges that any activation of OEM would "raise security concerns," require additional security personnel and increase the likelihood of a terrorist attack?

—Martin Schneider
Brooklyn Heights

SLOPE PARADE...



Members of Ladder 122 parade down Prospect Park West Sunday afternoon.

The Brooklyn Papers / Tom Cavan

Continued from page 1

"It's a bitter-sweet agreement," Fay said. "The sweetness of the day was the invitation from the parish of Saint Augustine's ... It was a beautiful gesture."

For more than a decade Fay and his group have sought an invitation to march in the procession but to no avail. When the group received an invitation to march with St. Augustine's last week, the pastor of the church said he was told by parishioners that the gay

group would not be unfurling its banner.

On the sidelines, most revelers waved orange and green flags as the marching bands passed.

Anne Jackson, who grew up in Park Slope and now lives in New Jersey, has attended the parade since its inception 28 years ago. She stood at Bartel Pritchard Square, the jumping off point for the parade, wearing a cluster of cloth signs that said:

"I feel anyone who is Irish is more than welcome to march," she said. "I'm not sure about sexual orientation. If they want to march their colors ..."

She said her favorite elements of the parade were "the music, the bagpipes and the band."

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REACT...

Continued from page 3

when he was 14 and joining the Navy three years later. He served in the Pacific Islands until the end of World War II in 1945.

"I went through it when I was 18-years-old," said Vanasco, 77. "Why should young people go through the same thing? They said [WW II] would be the last war and now we have a worse war because it's terrorism and we can't even see the enemy."

At the other end of the spectrum, Jaki Williams Florsheim, 59, co-chair of Brooklyn Heights Peace Action, recalls sit-ins, teach-ins and marches against Vietnam while a student at Stanford University.

"We've been through this before," she said. "We've been through this with Vietnam."

In the past year, Florsheim has organized or been involved with numerous protests against the war in Iraq including Sunday's candlelight vigil on Prospect Park West.

Despite a heightened alert, Florsheim said, "I'm fearful of neighbors against neighbors."

"There's already a lot of anti-Middle Eastern and anti-Arab sentiments in New York."

"I have confidence that the mayor and the police commissioner are doing all that they can do," said Downtown Brooklyn-Brooklyn Heights Councilman David Yassky, who co-sponsored a resolution opposing the war in Iraq.

"But having said that I feel a lot more edge than I used to, as do many of my neighbors," he added.

"Honestly, I think people are going to realize that way until we feel a little more secure about the future."

READY...

Continued from page 1
because you know why it's there. Hopefully, terrorists are the ones that are concerned."

In Patrol Borough Brooklyn South, which includes the 62nd, 68th, 72nd, 76th and 78th Precincts, including the neighborhoods of Bay Ridge, Bensonhurst, Dyker Heights, Sunset Park, Park Slope, Carroll Gardens and Cobble Hill, there will be a fixed police presence at the Brooklyn-Battery Tunnel and the Verrazano-Narrows Bridge, said Inspector Mike Coan, counter-terrorism coordinator for Brooklyn South.

"Those two locations were given top priority," Coan said. "In addition to that, we're looking at houses of worship or any other sensitive locations."

Law enforcement is working with the Transit Authority to identify subway stations that could be potential targets, although Stillwell Avenue in Coney Island and 86th Street in Bay Ridge are already among those selected for tighter security.

As of Tuesday night, the Williamsburg Bridge was closed to truck traffic to keep a closer eye on trucks crossing the other bridges.

"All these trucks will come down and use the Manhattan Bridge," Rising added. "So you'll see more traffic. Hopefully that's the greatest inconvenience."

There are currently no plans to close the Verrazano Narrows Bridge to trucks, Coan said.

Increased security includes bomb-sniffing dogs on the subways. Army patrol of transit hubs, tighter restrictions of federal airspace and increased Coast Guard patrol of the harbor.

"This is a multi-agency program," Rising said. "It's a city program that is being contributed to by federal agencies, by state agencies. It's really about coordinating all our resources."

The NYPD's Counter-Terrorism Task Force will be operating out of the patrol boroughs around the city, which include Brooklyn South and Brooklyn North. Each of the patrol boroughs are equipped to address counter-terrorism measures independent of one another.

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GREEK...

Continued from page 1

But those plans changed after Jarvis met a 6-foot-5 basketball player from Greece at a Boston disco. She fell in love. Jarvis soon packed her bags

and moved to Greece in 1982, where she got married a year later.

Earning the nickname "Black Diamond," the 5-foot-10 Jarvis joined Panathinaikos,

the women's basketball team in Greece where she started before moving over to modeling, where she was known as "chocolate Aphrodite." That led to a gig as a local television host and brief career as a nightclub singer.

She and her first husband have since divorced and Jarvis is now married to John Muller, an American transplant, who is a musician and professional dog trainer. They have a 7-year-old son, John Jacob Shaquille.

Calling her election to city government "a cause for celebration," Borough President Marty Markowitz is organizing a blowout party at Borough Hall on March 29. The invitation-only party will bring together leaders of Brooklyn's black and Greek communities to welcome Jarvis back.

Markowitz said Jarvis was the first Brooklynite ever elected to office in another country. (Number two could come as soon as April, if Bensonhurst native Anthony Bianchi wins in his bid for a seat on the Tokyo city council.)

"It will be a nice thing," Basil Capetanakis, an active member of the Greek community in Bay Ridge who is organizing the event with Borough Hall, said. "The joy of the celebration. Asked if he was surprised that a black American woman was elected to office in Greece, Capetanakis explained that people were more open-minded there."

"There is less discrimination in Greece than anywhere else in the world," said Capetanakis, who moved to Brooklyn from Sparta in 1946.

But with immigrants pouring into Greece in recent years, almost one-tenth of the country's population of 11 million is now made up of immigrants. Organizing language and culture classes, Jarvis wants to ensure that those immigrants are absorbed into Greek society.

Calling the coming together of the black and Greek communities, first, Capetanakis said he looked forward to the event.

"I think it's terrific," said Essee Gregory, President of the National Council of Negro Women, Brooklyn Section, one of the many groups co-hosting the event. Organizers estimate 400 attendees.

"Only in Brooklyn," said Markowitz.

ATLANTIC...

Continued from page 1

unsuccessful.

Both Sandy Balboa, president of the Atlantic Avenue Betterment Association, and Heloise Gruneberg, president of the Boerum Hill Association, have opted not to join the latest incarnation of the advisory board.

Balboa spent seven years on an advisory board, until 2000.

"The city put it here and is saying this is the best we can do," she said. "And we're saying, then close it."

But Balboa and Gruneberg attended two meetings last fall but complained that ACS was more interested in defending the center than

changing it.

"This is one sham of a neighborhood advisory council," Gruneberg said. "And this is one reason that I pulled out it."

At the hearing Thursday, Bell was presenting plans for the agency to comply with budget cuts requested by Mayor Michael Bloomberg, when Yassky said he had requested an oversight meeting on the transitional center, but given the General Welfare Committee's busy schedule he wasn't sure when he would have the chance to discuss his complaints, so he opted to take on Bell at the budget hearing.

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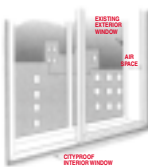
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The Brooklyn Papers' essential guide to the Borough of Kings

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Partners in design

Morris & Mizrahi team up for visual feast

By Lisa J. Curtis
The Brooklyn Papers

Those who doubt that Brooklyn is a center for both fashion and modern dance should take note of the friendship and decade-long collaboration between two important figures in each sphere—Isaac Mizrahi and Mark Morris. Morris, whose dance troupe is in Fort Greene, and Mizrahi, who hails from Midwood, have collaborated on costumes for the Mark Morris Dance Group since 1993. The dance group will kick off another fresh slate of performances Tuesday night, at the BAM Howard Gilman Opera House, and over the course of five days, they will perform two programs featuring four New York premieres. Also featured will be already beloved dances such as "V," dedicated to the city of New York.

Expect another eclectic pair of programs of utterly original dance and music, and as always, a parade of dynamic costumes.

"Everyone will have to come twice to see everything," Morris told GO Brooklyn in a telephone interview from Boston, his troupe's last stop before they return to their dance center on Lafayette Avenue.

Among the four New York premieres will be "Serenade," a solo work performed by Morris, and the ensemble piece "Resurrection," both with costumes by Mizrahi. While Mizrahi has had other roles in the fire, such as his current "Isaac Mizrahi Show" on the Oxygen cable channel and his new line of sportswear and accessories to be launched in August at Target stores, he continues to be a loyal conduit channeling Morris' visions into costumes as dynamic as the performances of the dancers who wear them.

"The first thing he designed for me was 'Three Preludes' to Gershwin's music, 10 years ago," said Morris. "We were friends before I asked him to work with me, but you don't want to automatically ask your friends to design for you, because what if you don't like it?"

Morris calls Mizrahi his "best friend," and Mizrahi concurs.

"We tend to laugh at the same jokes and cry at the same tragedies," Mizrahi told GO Brooklyn. "And we tend to like the same movies and love the same plays. Our tastes and the way we think are in line, so at this point, it's like a crazy psy-



Close-knit: (Left to right) Choreographer Mark Morris and designer Isaac Mizrahi, who are best friends, will team up for another visual feast at the Brooklyn Academy of Music next week. (At right) Mizrahi's sketch for Morris' solo dance, "Serenade."

chic thing."

The two work together like composer and lyricist.

"Isaac loves music and dance and is very knowledgeable," said Morris. "He knows my aesthetic and I his. So it's very interesting and comfortable and still a challenge every time."

Said Mizrahi, "Usually, because I know his work so well, and we've worked so well together in the past, I get a sense of what he's hearing in the music. I get a sense of what he likes about the music, and suddenly it suggests a color to me, or no colors to me."

In the case of "Resurrection," the dance set to Richard Rodgers' "Slaughter on 10th Avenue," the designer drew only black and white.

"For some reason, the music never suggested a color or range of colors, the way so much music usually does," said Mizrahi.

"It's dazzling music. It suggested patterns to me, just classic patterns and black and white.... That's what I see when I hear that music," he said. "I thought I would create these patterns for 16 dancers all in black and white."

"It makes the dancers individuals, yet like a herd of dancers," Mizrahi continued. "Everyone belongs to a flock or a tribe. Then the two leads are in reverse prints: black background with white figures."

Morris, who said Mizrahi's costumes "are never what I think it's going to be," likes these dynamic ensembles.

"The costumes for 'Resurrection' are fabulous, beautiful, very active-looking costumes," he said. "They are big prints, almost in black-and-white, that refer to the '30s, which is when the music was written. But that's the only nod to that."

Morris told Mizrahi that he was looking for a more cinematic quality for this dance. "They are not bright," pointed out Mizrahi. "They are dulled down, as opposed to vivid. He didn't want them to be bright. I think he wanted a smoldering quality to the whole thing, like an actual black-and-white movie."

'Serenade' for a friend

Again limiting his palette to black and white, Mizrahi created an Asian-inspired, formal ensemble for Morris to wear in "Serenade," which Morris choreographed to music by his friend of 15 years, composer Lou Harrison. Morris will be dancing to Harrison's "Serenade for Guitar."

This "very, very new" piece just premiered March 6 at the George Mason Concert Hall in Fairfax, Va.

"[Serenade] was always made for me," said Morris. "Lou Harrison was a very good friend of mine. Although I was using this music anyway, he died right before I began choreographing, so it underscored it. This is a dance for Lou."

"It's guitar with percussion and me in five movements," said Morris. "Lou is a big expert in many kinds of music, so it refers to Asian music quite a bit: Turkish and Indonesian. And a little bit, I guess, of that Asian point of view is in the dance."

Mizrahi said the music conjured a decidedly restrained costume motif. "When I heard that Lou Harrison music, the white straight jacket thing came in a flash," said Mizrahi. "When I sketched it, Mark said, 'That's funny, that's what I was thinking.'"

Morris was happy with what Mizrahi's designed for "Serenade."

"To me it looks Korean, although it's not. It's a tightly wrapped white jacket with a black ankle-length linen skirt," he said. "It's like a dress with a jacket over it; it doesn't look like a suit. It looks very Japanese or Korean, and ties in the back. It's very high necked and quite elegant and formal. Beautiful."

Morris said he would even play some instruments in "Serenade": finger cymbals and castanets.

"Go figure, I needed something to do with my hands," he said dryly.

'Kolam' premiere

Just as Mizrahi does not design exclusively for the Mark Morris Dance Group (he has

See MORRIS on page GO 2

DANCE

Mark Morris Dance Group will perform Program A ("New Love Song Waltzes" (1982), "Serenade" (2003), "Going Away Party" (1999) and "Kolam" (2002)) on March 25, 27 and 28 at 7:30 pm. Program B ("Resurrection" (2002), "Something Lies Beyond the Scene" (2002) and "Fouessome" (2000)) is on March 26 and March 29 at 7:30 pm, and March 30 at 3 pm. Tickets are \$40, \$40 and \$20. For tickets call (718) 636-4100 or visit www.mmdg.org. For more information about the MMDG Benefit Gala Performance and Party on March 25, call (718) 628-8400, ext. 206.



Graphic designer: Mizrahi's vision for Morris' "Resurrection" costumes include bold patterns rendered in black and white, reminiscent of the silver screen.

FASHION

Closet cases

Spoke the Hub's latest benefit is a wonderful opportunity to contribute (financially, that is) to its 10th annual Local Produce Festival of the Performing Arts, May 2-4, by cleaning out your closets and lightening your wallet.

After a two-year hiatus, Spoke the Hub will again present its "Recycled Fashion Show & High Tea." Like a good philanthropist, clean out your walk-in closets and drop off your best used clothes at Spoke the Hub Re-Creation Center (748 Union St. between Fifth and Sixth avenues in Park Slope) before March 22, where the Hub's "in house fashion composers" will assemble your cast-offs into this year's must-haves.

The "new" outfits will be sent down an improvised catwalk, at Spoke the Hub, on March 30 at 3 pm, where guests are invited to enjoy tea and pastries during the fashion show. Among the "super" models will be High School for Leadership and Public Service teacher Tracy Kornrich (pictured).

The post-show shopping frenzy begins at 4 pm. Admission, which includes high tea, is \$15. For reservations or to donate clothing or modeling services, call (718) 857-5158. Reservations are recommended.

— Lisa J. Curtis

THEATER



Young guns: Works by Brooklyn playwrights (left to right) Young Jean Lee, Barbara Cassidy and B. Walker Sampson will be featured as part of the American Theater Nexus program on March 27.

The Brooklyn Papers / Gregory Cross

New ideas

Although American Theater Nexus is only a few months old, this monthly BRIC Studio series is quickly establishing itself as a showcase for new, experimental theater and emerging playwrights.

These days, serious theater is hard to find. It is overshadowed by the big-budget Broadway extravaganzas and under-produced by cash-strapped community theaters. That BRIC Studio has taken this bold step is a sign that the organization wants to be a major player in Brooklyn's cultural life.

The series is curated by DUMBO Theater Exchange (DTX), a Brooklyn-based theater company headed by Luke Leonard, who is also an actor and director. Leonard is assisted by co-curator and DTX member, S. Melinda Dunlap.

The series was created for "people looking for something new and engaging." Dunlap told GO Brooklyn, "Something that is not going to patronize them, but will appeal intellectually as well as emotionally."

Both Leonard and Dunlap have already had plays produced at BRIC Studio — Dunlap's "The Woman She Declined to Become," in October, and "Totemic Communion," in November; and Leonard's "Performance Record 1," in January.

"We're looking for plays that have to be put on stage, plays that couldn't be shown on television or on film," said Dunlap. "They're not melodramas where people come in and work out their problems. They're plays that challenge the audience by making people figure them out."

In addition to plays by emerging playwrights, last December, BRIC Studio presented three plays by Sam Shepherd, directed by Leonard and his wife, Natalie. Last February, American Theater Nexus presented several original plays. On March 27, the program will include 10-minute plays by Brooklyn-based playwrights B. Walker Sampson, Barbara Cassidy, Young Jean Lee, Jonathan Bernstein and Douglas Green.

The BRIC Studio theater has a flexible black-box stage and seats 75 cabaret style — which means members of the audience can have a drink, watch the show and share the experience with a friend.

The March 27 performance begins at 7:30 pm. Tickets are \$10, \$8 students with valid ID. A discount code of four admissions (which includes all other BRIC Studio shows) is \$32. BRIC Studio is located at 57 Rockwell Place, second floor, between Fulton Street and DeKalb Avenue. For reservations, call (718) 855-7882, ext. 53, or visit www.bricnyc.org.

— Paulanne Simmons

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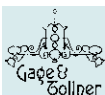


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MORRIS...

Continued from page GO 1

also designed for Twyla Tharp, Bill T. Jones and Mikhail Baryshnikov. Morris also works with his other "frequent, habitual or preferred designers," including Mary Falkendanz — who invented the delicious confections worn in December's sold-out performances of "The Hard Nut" at BAM and who designed the costumes for "V" to be danced this week — and in-house wardrobe supervisor Katherine McDowell.

"Other times, I have a good idea of what I want," said Morris, who turns his ideas over to McDowell, who designed this week's "Kolam" and "Something Lies Beyond the Scene."

She shops it and it puts it together. She works for me full-time in wardrobe," said Morris. The Asian influence carries over to "Kolam," named for an Indian folk art form that uses powders to draw intricate geometric designs. The music of "Kolam" was composed by Indian tabla master Zakir Hussain and former Mark Morris music director, the pianist Ethan Hanson.

"It's a new dance that's quite directly based on the impression of Indian dance," said Morris. "It's not an Indian dance by any stretch, but it refers to it."

Mizrahi will return to Brooklyn on March 25 to co-host the Mark Morris Dance Group gala fundraiser with actress Isabella Rossellini. While the Morris-Mizrahi collaboration has produced fun parties and many beautiful productions over the years, Mizrahi said he was particularly proud of "Placee."

"Because it's such a grand costume epic," he said, but then added that his greatest collaboration with Morris still lies ahead.

"I'm even more proud of what we're doing this year: 'King Arthur,' an opera by Henry Purcell. I'm even more proud of that because, in my mind, it's the most incredible thing in the world," said Mizrahi. "I have an incredibly beautiful idea. I can't wait to execute it."

Chopstix restaurant in Bay Ridge offers sophisticated versions of the classics

By Tina Barry
for The Brooklyn Papers

The decor at Chopstix, a casual Chinese restaurant that opened last September in Bay Ridge, is different than the Chinese restaurants in my Brooklyn neighborhood. Chopstix's dynamic decor features primary-colored, modern lanterns hanging from the ceiling, and a mural of jumpsuit-clad Asian women eating from takeout containers. The menu, however, was familiar: sesame noodles, beef with broccoli, everything with garlic sauce.

I recognized the restaurant's mission statement: "To cook the greatest, most delicious, most wholesome food on Earth" has similar claims on Chinese menus.

When someone walked up to the counter and ordered egg rolls and lo mein I felt pang of sympathy for the restaurant's chefs. How can a chef satisfy diners who look for some authenticity if other patrons expect to taste?

Owner and head chef George Wong is a graduate of the Culinary Institute of America. He admits that his food isn't "authentic like Chinatown, but it is very good." But while his dishes sound familiar, Wong's interpretations are refined. All the ingredients are at their freshest; his sauces are light and cleanly flavored; and his aesthetic sensibility is modern: food is simply arranged on the plate with few embellishments.

Wong begins a meal with a complimentary dish of Sichuan spicy cucumbers. Everyone at a table remarked on a beauty.

On a simple, white oval dish sat thin crescents of striated cucumbers. The green-and-white slices were dressed in a bright peanut and chili sauce with shavings of fresh garlic scattered over the top. The perfect yin and yang of the hot and cool flavors made the dish difficult to stop eating. It disappeared in about three minutes.

Wong has a sure hand with fried foods. Out of his wok come spring rolls that bear little resemblance to the leaden messes I've served elsewhere. The rolls' thin shells were a little greasy, but we enjoyed that. Large chunks of tender shrimp (not the mealy, tiny kind so often used as filling), moist pieces of pork and big, chewy slivers of shiitake mushrooms replace the standard over-chopped stuffing.

Fried jumbo shrimp surprised me. Each shrimp is given a light dusting of Japanese bread-crumbs called panko that have a fine-grained texture. The shellfish are fried quickly resulting in a rare shrimp with a brittle, crisp coating.

"Like tempura," said Wong. He's close.

Dumplings are handmade and taste nothing like the clumsy, flavorless variety I've grown used to. The wrappers are thicker than I prefer, but they're not gummy. Four kinds of fillings are available: vegetable, chicken, pork and seafood. All the fillings are well seasoned and not mushy. The seafood dumpling, a blend of crab (real, not the pink-dyed faux stuff), scallops and shrimp, is the best. The wrappers are tender and tasted cleanly of the shellfish enlivened with flecks of cilantro.

I'd make another visit for the seasonal Chinese vegetable. Baby bok choy, Chinese cabbage, is sautéed until soft in rich chicken broth with slices of garlic. (Vegetable broth can be substituted for vegetarians.) The dish — with its tones of cream and green — is a beauty; the sautéing brings out the nutty taste of the vegetable. Paired with a mound of old-fashioned young chow fried rice (the white rice with pieces of shrimp, pork, chicken and fried eggs that bears no resemblance to stale-tasting, over-soy-sauce-soaked Chinese fried rice), the dishes make a sumptuous vegetarian feast.

Remember moo goo gai pan, that Chinese-American comfort food of



Star attractions: Among the dishes at Chopstix restaurant on Fifth Avenue at 84th Street are (clockwise from bottom left) triple chicken (a platter of lemon chicken, chicken with mixed vegetables and General Tso's chicken); steamed dumplings filled with chicken, pork, vegetables and seafood; jumbo shrimp prepared tempura style; and chilled Sichuan spicy cucumbers.

The Brooklyn Papers / Gregory Corso

Our only disappointments were a dull bowl of Cantonese noodle soup filled with fresh vegetables, chicken and chow fun noodles, and pad thai noodles that had the correct ingredients — baby shrimp, bean sprouts and egg in a peanut sauce — but lacked spark.

I wouldn't have guessed that creme caramel would be the perfect dessert at a Chinese restaurant — yet it was. Delicately flavored with orange peel and ginger, Wong's creme, made in-house, was light, cool and smooth on the palate. I'd pass on his heavy, crustless cheesecake.

A moment of drama occurred near the end of our meal. A couple next to us was served a platter of sizzling steak that crackled and perfumed the air around us.

"Aren't you glad we found this place?" asked the man. "Who would have known?" she answered, forking up pieces of the rare meat. I agree.

WHERE TO GO

compiled by
Susan Rosenthal

THURS, MARCH 20

LIBRARY: "Women Poets Speak Their Minds" series. Today, several poets read from their work. 6 p.m. Central Library, Grand Convent Plaza, 218-230-2100. Free.

ARTIST SEMINAR: Brooklyn Arts Council Series for artists and arts organizations. Today's topic: "Nonprofit Incorporation with Tax-Exempt Status or for Business: Which is the Best Model For You?" 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. St. Francis College, 180 Remondino St., 718-625-0000. Free.

CHILDREN FIRST: Chancellor Joel Klein invites community to "Regional Parent/Community Engagement Meeting" to address new agenda for public schools. 6:30 p.m. James Madison HS, Cal. 212-374-6092.

BAMCINEMATEX: "Oscar in New York: Annie Hall" (1977). \$10. 6:50 p.m. Q & A with actor Tony Roberts and writer Marshall Herskovitz. 718-625-0000. Free.

LECTURE: Rock Stock hosts a talk: "The Benefits of Aerobic Therapy and Herbs." 7 p.m. 297 Seventh St., 718-625-0000. Free.

BARNES AND NOBLE: presents Johnson's book, author of "City of Ghosts." 7 p.m. 106 Court St., 718-998-4996. Free.

PROTEINS: Park Slope Food Coop talk on how much protein your diet should have. 7 p.m. 782 Union St. (718) 622-0560. Free.

BAM: "El Niño," by John Adams. 782 Union St. (718) 622-0560. Free. The concert discussion with John Adams and Peter Sellers. \$5. 84 friends of BAM. 6:15 p.m. Hillman Attic Studio, 30 Lafayette Ave. Also, "Hushagaga." 7:30 p.m. See Sat. (718) 625-4100.

READING: Prospect Park YMCA presents author Ann Pregeant. She reads from her memoir "The Dogs Who Grew Me." 7:30 p.m. 357 Ninth St. (718) 768-7100. Free.

BARGE MUSIC: chamber music by Chopin. 7:30 p.m. Fulton Ferry Landing. (718) 624-2083.

BNC STUDIO: "Sink or Swim," puppetry, music and dance. \$10. 54 students. 7:30 p.m. 57 Rockwell Place. (718) 855-7882.

GALAPAGOS ART SPACE: Larval Opera. \$5. 8 p.m. 70 North 5th St. (718) 762-5188.

BARNES BAR: presents Michael Munisteri. No cover. 9 p.m. 376 North St. (718) 965-9177.

LOW BAR: Music with Michael Stumm. No cover. 10:30 p.m. 406 Washington St. (718) 222-0200.

RAV POTLUK: Park Slope Food Coop hosts a dinner. Bring a new veggie dish for six to please. \$20 donation per person. 7:30 to 10 p.m. 782 Union St. (718) 622-0560.

BOYKING: Gleason's Gym white roller skates. \$20 registration fee. \$15 spectator fee. 7:30 p.m. 191 E. 12th St. (718) 797-2872.

GOOD COFFEEHOUSE: Caru Thompson and Friends. Journey into spring and celebrate Women's History Month with an intergenerational, multicultural mix of women performing song, music and dance. \$10. 8 p.m. 53 Prospect Park West. (718) 768-2972.

ABOVE THE RIGHT BANK: Music with Young People. Fall in Love and Victory at Sea. \$5. 8 p.m. 409 Kent Ave. (718) 388-9920.

BARNES BAR: presents One Ring Road and Last Riders Del Norte. No cover. 8:30 p.m. 376 Ninth St. (718) 965-9177.

RISING UNLUGGED: Sala Bolen and Chris Puelma perform. \$2. 8 p.m. The Rooms, 186 Fifth Ave. (718) 622-5072.

LOW BAR: presents music with Howard Barker. Quartet. 10:30 p.m. 81 Washington St. (718) 222-1100.

WOMEN IN JAZZ: The Jazz Spot presents pianist Jill McCann. \$25. 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. 375 North 5th St. (718) 653-9255.

GALAPAGOS ART SPACE: presents Farm NY, and evening of film, art and music. \$6. 9 p.m. 70 North 5th St. (718) 762-5188.

MUSIC: Magnolia Cafe presents Jeff Raloff and Dave Acker. No cover. 10 p.m. to 1 a.m. 406 Washington St. (718) 369-4814.

BAM: Switzerland theater in "Hushagaga." 7:30 p.m. See Sat. (718) 625-4100.

BOYKING: 7:30 p.m. See Sat. (718) 797-2872.

BARGE MUSIC: chamber music program of Mozart's last three quartets. \$35. 7:30 p.m. Fulton Ferry Landing. (718) 624-2083.

651 ARTS: presents "Peaches," a staged event, a dream sequence, a theatrical piece inspired from a song by Nina Simone. \$25. 8 p.m. Brooklyn Music School Playhouse, 126 Fulton St. (718) 624-4181.

HEIGHTS PLAYERS: family drama "Remember Mama." \$10. 8 p.m. 409 Kent Ave. (718) 388-9920.

BROOKLYN LYCEUM: presents "The Circus of Vice." \$10. 8 p.m. 150 1st Ave. (718) 222-0572.

THEATER: "Bat Boy." \$10. 8 p.m. 409 Kent Ave. (718) 388-9920.

WATERLOO THEATER: "Shakespeare in Space." \$10. 8 p.m. 409 Kent Ave. (718) 388-9920.

SOUTH OXFORD SPACE: "Sonnets for Old Century." 8 p.m. See Sat. (718) 625-4100.

SAT, MARCH 22

OUTDOORS AND TOURS
SUBWAY TOUR: Transit Museum hosts a tour to Station 1488 South. A rail bus and walking tour. All-day tour begins at Penn Station with a ride on the Long Island Rail Road to Valley Stream station. Then, bus trip along the Far Rockaway, Long Beach and West Hempstead train stations. \$35. \$30 members. 8 a.m. Call. (718) 694-3939.

WILD FOOD TOUR: "Wildman" Steve Brill leads a food and ecology tour of Prospect Park. Celebrate the arrival of spring and had lunch with the Wildman. 11:45 a.m. Meet at Grand Army Plaza entrance to Prospect Park. Call. (718) 835-2153.

WALKING TOUR: New York Like a Native tour of Park Slope. Brooklyn and Brooklyn Heights. \$15. 1:30 to 4 p.m. Call for reservations and meeting location. (718) 393-7571.

PERFORMANCES
BORO TALES: White Bird Productions presents "Boro Tales: Brooklyn." \$15. 3 and 7 p.m. BNC Studio. Theater corner of Fulton Street and Rockwell Place. (718) 392-5658.

CONCERT: Penumbras. \$65. 6 p.m. Medgar Evers College, 1650 Bedford Avenue. (718) 202-2119.

PLAY: Transmission Projects presents "Compass Your Dreams," a tribute to silence. \$12. 8 p.m. Gate Gates at 37, 37 Main St. (718) 875-9177.

BROOKLYN ARTS EXCHANGE: "The Love Poets: Phenomena, Realities and Other Related Stories." Created and directed by seven women between the ages of 25 to 70. program explores experiences with non-normative love. \$10. 8 p.m. 421 Fifth Ave. (718) 622-0016.

ABOVE THE RIGHT BANK: Music with Tal Boyce. \$8. 8 p.m. 409 Kent Ave. (718) 388-9920.

BROOKLYN LYCEUM: presents "The Circus of Vice." \$10. 8 p.m. 150 1st Ave. (718) 222-0572.

THEATER: "Bat Boy." \$10. 8 p.m. 409 Kent Ave. (718) 388-9920.

WATERLOO THEATER: presents "Shakespeare in Space." \$10. 8 p.m. 409 Kent Ave. (718) 388-9920.

SOUTH OXFORD SPACE: Inaugural production of Jose Rivera's "Sonnets for an Old Century." \$15. 8 p.m. 138 South Oxford St. (718) 638-3489.

BCBC: Brooklyn Center for Performing Arts presents The Lydian Singers with David Rudder. \$40. 8 p.m. Walt Whitman Hall, Brooklyn College, one block from the intersection of Flatbush and Nostrand avenues. (718) 951-4500.

PIANO MUSIC: Edward R. Murrow High School presents a concert featuring pianist-composer/arranger Sheryl Anne. 8 p.m. 156 Main St. (718) 246-7440.

BARNES BAR: traditional Turkish music with Sukranet. No cover. 9 p.m. 376 Ninth St. (718) 965-9177.

RIGHT BANK CAFE: Performance by Vic Thrill and The What. No cover. 8:30 p.m. to 1 a.m. 409 Kent Ave. (718) 388-9920.

THE RISING: CD release party for Matt Landbase. 9 p.m. 186 Fifth Ave. (718) 622-5072.

LOW BAR: Music with Koolaji, Looop and Qpe. No cover. 9 p.m. See Sat. (718) 625-4100.

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Everything is new again

Nostalgia reigns with this season's 'Annie' and 'I Remember Mama'

By Paulanne Simmons
for The Brooklyn Papers

First let me confess, there's almost no way I could dislike "I Remember Mama" — whatever form this warm and wonderful story takes.

My childhood memories of sitting in front of the television watching the Hanson's old family open and hearing the offstage voices intoning, "But most of all, I remember Mama," followed by a crescendo, are as comforting as chicken soup and a soft teddy bear. And Peggy Wood, with her blonde braids wound round her head, and her comforting and calm voice, may have been the mother wished for by a generation of children.

The Heights Players' current production follows John Van Drueten's stage adaptation of "Mama's Bank Account," Kathryn Forbes' collection of autobiographical short stories about an immigrant Norwegian family living in San Francisco in 1910. The production is somewhat rambling, unfocused and exhaustingly long. But it retains all the genuine sentiment and solid good sense that made the original play a Broadway hit in the war-torn 1940s and a long-running TV series in the years that followed.

Deborah Pautler, whom director Ted Thompson found when he was directing "Fuddy Meers" for the Gallery Players, plays Marta Hanson, mother to Karin, Dagmar, Christine and Nels, and wife of Lars. It is Marta who cooks, cleans and provides moral, emotional and intellectual support for everyone else in the family. And just as it is Marta who holds the family together and ensures everyone's success, it is Pautler who holds this play together and makes it work.

Pautler is a bit too young for the

THEATER

The Heights Players' production of "I Remember Mama" plays through March 22, Friday and Saturday at 8 pm, and Sunday at 2 pm, at 26 Willow Place, between Joralemon and State streets in Brooklyn Heights. Tickets are \$20, \$8 seniors and students. For reservations, call (718) 237-2752.

Brooklyn Family Theatre's production of "Annie" runs through April 5, Friday at 8 pm, Saturdays at 4 pm and 8 pm, and Sundays at 5 pm at the Church of the Good Shepherd, 1012 Eighth Ave. at 10th Street in Park Slope. Tickets are \$12. For reservations, call (718) 670-7205.

part, but she is so utterly believable that it's easy to forget such a minor detail. She has the calm gestures and the gentle voice that no woman who is over-worked but not overwhelmed, and the subtle sense of humor of someone determined to survive. Whatever the problem the Hansons face — an injured cat, a sick child or a dying uncle — Pautler makes the audience feel it is a bit of directorial license. He could have dropped any number of scenes and lost none of the flavor of the play.

Still, in a sick and troubled world, "I Remember Mama" is just what the doctor ordered. In 1944, America was both a charlatan and an actor, and Michael Blake as the gruff but warm-hearted Uncle Chris.

Erin Wade is Karin, the aspiring writer upon whose memories the play is based. She does an impressive job as a self-absorbed and sensitive adolescent searching for her place in the adult world. But it is the very nature of the role that in remembering her life is overshadowed by Mama — especially when the role is filled by such a formidable actress as Pautler.

A more experienced actress might

have held her own better. But Wade shows much promise, and this reviewer would like to see more of her after this, her New York debut.

Forbes' book was the source of not only a play (with Mady Christians as Mama and a young Marion Brando as Nels) and a TV series, but also a 1940 movie (with Ine Dume as Mama).

It isn't hard to understand what gives this story its strong appeal. Who could resist this family with its loving mother, stolid father and close-knit extended family filled with people who are sometimes ridiculous but always relevant?

In fact, this play is so appealing that it manages to survive even though it has no real plot, no suspense and nothing to tie the many episodes together other than the love of the family and Karin's desire to write about it.

Like a good poem, "I Remember Mama" has a meaning without moving. But even a good poem might have done its audience, to say nothing of its actors, a good turn by being a bit of directorial license. He could have dropped any number of scenes and lost none of the flavor of the play.

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A more experienced actress might

Brooklyn Family Theatre in Park Slope.

Annie is co-directed by Phill Mearns and Jonathan Valuckas, a team that brought us "The Pirates of Penzance" earlier this season. These masters of theatrical minimalism know how to make much of digitized music, cardboard scenery ("Annie" uses a scale model of New York City) and a few props — a chair, a trunk, a bottle of gin. They also certainly know how to choose their talent.

In addition to finding star material for the role of "Annie," they've also cast Jennifer Harrison as that quintessential heroine, Miss Hannigan, headmistress of the orphanage. I would have sworn Harrison was wearing a headscarf, but she's a professional, and she's a place in his home forever. Talk about a rags to riches story!

The musical is also socially conscious. President Franklin Roosevelt (Jim Conmy) makes an appearance,

together they form a vivid and comical contrast of good and evil. Coris dances and swaggers, Patterson convincingly does it seem to know what to do with his hands.

Of course a script that has everything an audience could want — a dog and a Christmas — doesn't hurt.

Based on Harold Gray's "Little Orphan Annie" comic strip, "Annie" has a book by Thomas Meehan, lyrics by Martin Charnin and music by Charles Strouse. The musical follows Annie as she runs away from the orphanage looking for her parents, finds herself caught by a policeman, and is returned to the orphanage only to be chosen to spend Christmas with Daddy Warbucks, a billionaire even during those Depression years. Annie is so charming and spunky that she wins Warbucks' heart and a place in his home forever.

The musical is also socially conscious. President Franklin Roosevelt (Jim Conmy) makes an appearance,



Table talk: (At left) In a scene from the Heights Players' production of "I Remember Mama" are (from left to right) Nels (Ryan Fries), Mama (Deborah Pautler) and Papa (Bob Doosey). (Above) Lynda Smith and Sammy Iwata star as Annie and her dog Sandy in Brooklyn Family Theatre's "Annie."

robust in his wheelchair and brandishing his famous cigarette holder, as does his cabinet — Ickes, Perkins, Hull and Morgenthau. They all try to figure out what is the best way to get the country out of its economic doldrums, and Annie so inspires Roosevelt that he comes up with the New Deal.

"Annie" has enough showstoppers to keep it running an extra 15 minutes on a good night. There's the bluesy "Easy Street" (Coris, Harrison and Monica Anselmi as Roster's girlfriend, Lily St. Regis — named after the hotel), the haunting "Maybe" (Senis), the soft-shoe ensemble piece, "You're Never Fully Dressed"; and the inspirational "Tomorrow" (belied out by Senis).

Brooklyn Family Theatre doesn't have the stage for big dance numbers, but they certainly had the talent for this past season's Sinners danced at the Metropolitan Opera House with the Kirov Ballet in "La Bayadere," and Anselmi has danced with the Chorus Girl 3B in New York University's main stage production of "Carousel." But in this case, a low-profile production only served to highlight the talent that was on stage.

Initially unable to find a Broadway producer, "Annie" opened at the Godspeed Opera House in East Haddam, Conn. Mike Nichols saw the show there and brought it to the Alvin Theatre in April 1977 where it ran for 2,377 performances and won the Tony and Drama Critics' Circle awards for best musical. ("Sex and the City's" Sarah Jessica Parker played Annie.)

In 1982, the musical was turned

into a film starring Aileen Quinn as Annie, Albert Finney as Oliver Warbucks and Carol Burnett as Miss Hannigan.

Annie takes a nostalgic look at events that are far enough in the past to warrant nostalgia. Ask anyone who lived through the Depression and they will most assuredly find nothing amusing about selling apples in the street or living in one of those makeshift towns known as Hoovervilles, named after the president who famously saw "prosperity" around every corner.

In the musical, Warbucks is a lovable character, but Gray left no doubt that this prosperous industrialist got his money. And with all those hills and on their side, naturally the good guys outwit (or is that outspend) the bad guys.

But let us not deal harshly with those who sanitized the little orphan and her escapades. Who knows how our children may look back on the scandals — or the white-bait healthcare in the boardrooms — that rocked our decades? Far better to sit just back and enjoy.

"Annie" is a great show!

Chekhov it out

The Wooster Group's production of "Brace Up!" now on stage at 1416 Warehouse, 38 Water St. at Dock Street in DUMBO, has extended its run through April 13. The avant-garde show, based on Anton Chekhov's "Three Sisters," features actors Will Dade and Kate Valk. For performance schedule, see Where to GO. For tickets, \$30-\$37.50, call (718) 656-2424.

Pregnant pause

"Pregnant with the bartender's kid and other works of fiction," an exhibit of encaustic mixed

media works by artist Emily Gear, are on display at LAILA Lounge, 113 North Seventh St., between Berry and Wythe streets, in Williamsburg, through March 31. Gear's "Untitled (Crucifixion)," at (718) 606-6791.

OTHER

FLEA MARKET: Sunset Park Community Church, 10 am to 2 pm, 5324 Fourth Ave. (718) 439-4944.

BEAD EXPO: Urban Glass hosts its annual show and sale, 55 11 am to 5 pm, 1000 Washington St. (718) 625-7272.

EXHIBIT: St. Mark's North Center presents photos by Mary Mami "The Greenish Green Sleeps," (718) 421-3291.

BLOOD DRIVE: First Evangelical Church, 11 am to 4:30 pm, 6501 Sixth Ave. (718) 636-4758.

UNDER THE CHUPPAH: Park Slope Jewish Center offers a talk on "What is a Jewish Wedding?" Learn what is required, \$12, \$10 members and includes a dairy potluck lunch, Eighth Avenue and 14th Street, call (718) 746-1453.

SELF-HEALING: Park Slope Food Co-op talk on tools that can be used to improve everyday lives including crystals, visualization and stress management techniques, 1 pm, 782 Union St. (718) 622-0560.

CELEBRATION: Union Center for Women hosts its 30th anniversary celebration, 5:30 pm, 253 Grand St. (718) 595-1000.

Regime Change, \$5, 8 pm, 57 Thorne St. (718) 418-2509.

BARBERS CAPE: Greta Gertler and the Carpenter String Quartet, 8 pm, No cover, 376 Ninth St. (718) 965-9177.

THE REDS: Rock & Roll band performs, 8 pm, 136 Fifth Ave. (718) 237-2752.

HEIGHTS PLAYERS: "I Remember Mama," 2 pm, See Sat.

THEATRE: "The Boy," 3 pm, See Sat.

BORO TALKS: "Boro Talks," Brooklyn, 3 pm, See Sat.

WATERLOO THEATRE: "Stakes in Space," 3 pm, See Sat.

BAM: Sentimental theatre, "Hairsprings," 3 pm, See Sat.

651 ARTS: presents Progress Theatre's music piece, "Feathers," 3 pm, See Sat.

MUSICAL THEATRE: "Annie," 3 pm, See Sat.

WOOSTER GROUP: "Brace Up!" 3 pm, See Sat.

CHILDREN: Jewish Center of Park Slope presents a class, "Jewish Awareness Through Music: Workshop for Teens," 5:10 includes pizza dinner, 8 pm, Eighth Avenue and 14th Street, (718) 746-1453.

PUPPETWORKS: presents, "The Prince and The Magic Lizard," 12:30 and 8 pm, See Sat.

OTHER: Bike Tour: Salt Marsh Nature Center takes a tour of Jamaica Bay, 10 am, bring bag, helmet and water bottle, 3302 Ave. U, (718) 421-2021. Free.

COLLECTIBLES SHOW: More than 40 vendors sell books, antiques and books, \$1, 10 am to 4 pm, St. Charles Borneo School, 23 Sidney Place, (718) 596-1362.

VIDEO: St. Ann's presents the second part of documentary "Not for Ourselves Alone: The Story of Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony," 12:30 pm, 157 Montague St. (718) 855-7932. Free.

ORGANIZING MEETING: Activists planning the defense of constitutional freedom meet. Sponsored by New York City Bill of Rights Defense Campaign, 2 to 5:30 pm, Island University room HS-107, Delafolk Avenue Extension and Delafolk Avenue, (718) 517-2255.

FILM SERIES: Brooklyn Public Library, Central branch, presents "Silent Slapstick 101," a series of classic silent film comedies, Tuesday, Buster Keaton's "Steam Heat" (1926), 2 pm, Grand Army Plaza, 2:30 pm, 220-2100. Free.

RECOGNITION: Celebration of Women's History Month honors

Brooklyn women, 3 pm, New Utrecht High School, 14th Avenue and 80th Street, (718) 236-6044. Free.

SUPPORT: Maimonides Medical Center group for those recovering from mental illness or addiction, 4 to 6 pm, 4802 108th Ave. (718) 273-2228. Free.

BARBERS CAPE: Poetry reading with Kathryn Levy and Christopher Goff, 376 Ninth St. (718) 965-9177. Free.

OCCULAR FILM FEST: short films, 5:30 to 7 pm, 70 North Sixth St. (718) 782-5188.

MON, MARCH 24

BLOOD DRIVE: at Bear Stearns and Co., 12:30 to 7 pm, 120 Broadway, 3 pm, See Sat.

CONCERT: St. Francis College presents, "Clara Schumann: The Artist and the Woman," Nancy Reich is lecturer and Erica Row, 12:30 pm, 180 E. 10th St., (718) 489-5272. Free.

SIDE SHOW: "A Search for the Throne of the Gods," 1 pm, St. Charles Jubilee Center, 55 Pierrepont St. (718) 955-0326. Free.

PS 8 MEETING: Carmen Fariña, superintendent of School District 15, to discuss plans for PS 8, which will be revamped under the leadership of Nancy Reich, 7 pm to 11 pm, 1448 Nostrand Ave. (718) 264-0086.

HEALING WITH TOUCH: Park Slope Food Co-op offers a class to relieve tension, stress, nervous, seasonal problems and asthma, 5:30 to 7:30 pm, South Oxford Space, 13 South Oxford St. (718) 389-0761.

PLAY: "Compass Your Dreams," 8 pm, See Sat.

NYC debut! The Lydian Singers with David Rudder

SAT • MAR 22, 2003 • 8PM
sponsored by **SHAWNEE**
Tickets: \$40

Boris Godunov
Teatro Lirico D'Europa

SUN • MAR 30, 2003 • 2PM
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Brooklyn Center debut! Ben Vereen

SAT • APR 5, 2003 • 8PM
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ire and Lynne Sharon Schwartz. Also, Daniela Giovinetti reads from "Women on Wall," 6:30 to 8 pm, 200 Cadman Plaza West, (718) 623-7100. Free.

CONCERT: One World Symphony performs, 8 pm, 510 students, 8 pm, St. Ann and the Holy Trinity, 12:30 pm, 180 E. 10th St., (718) 489-5272. Free.

BARBERS CAPE: Poetry reading with Kathryn Levy and Christopher Goff, 376 Ninth St. (718) 965-9177. Free.

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TUES, MARCH 25
MUSIC: Long Island University presents Latin percussionist Ray Maritelli, 4 pm, Flatbush Avenue Extension and Delafolk Avenue, (718) 488-1051. Free.

BARNES AND NOBLE: Non Readers book group discusses "Water" by Crystal Wilkerson, 7 pm, 106 Court St. (718) 246-4158. Free.

BAM: and Mark Morris Dance Group present choreography by Mark Morris, "New Love Song" features "New Love Song" and "Three other works," \$60, \$40, \$20, 7:30 pm, 30 Lafayette Ave. (718) 636-4100.

READING: Brooklyn Public Library, Brooklyn Heights branch, presents a reading of poetry by Seph

